



County Awards Application Deadline and Banquet

The deadline for County Awards applications has been changed to November 14, 2008 at 5 p.m. **The font size used on the application should be no smaller than 10.** The 4-H County Awards Banquet will be held on January 15, 2009 at 6:00p.m. at the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD). As in the past, anyone who submits an application for an award is welcomed to attend for free. The cost for everyone else will be \$7.00 a person. **RSVP (participants must RSVP like everyone else) and payment must be sent to the 4-H office (586-469-6931) by January 5, 2009.**

4-H Communications Day

Communications Day is an opportunity for youth to share ideas and demonstrate their skills and knowledge about topics and issues that interest them and possibly win CASH prizes. Youth ages 9 to 19 are invited to participate in contests that will showcase and expand their communication skills and knowledge through public speaking, demonstrations, job interviews, photography, art, exhibits, cookery, graphic design, web design, citizenship and more.



Communications Day will take place on February 14 at Anthony Hall on MSU campus and must register by January 21st, 2009 at the County MSUE office. Check out the MSU animal science website for more details at: <http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/events.html>.

2009 Michigan Week Youth Photo Contest

The 2009 Michigan Week Youth Photo Contest is open to all youth aged 9 to 19 as of January 1, 2009 who are interested in photographing Michigan's historical structures. The photo submission deadline is February 15, 2009. Contest applications are available online at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/visarts.html>.

4-H Youth Development Day at Breslin Center

Hold Sunday, January 25, 2009, for the 4th annual MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Day at the Breslin Center, as we cheer on the MSU Spartan Women's Basketball team as they play the University of Wisconsin. The "tentative" game time is 2 p.m. at the MSU Breslin Center on the Campus of Michigan State University, in East Lansing. Admission will once again be free for MSU Extension, 4-H members, volunteers, families and staff.

M.S.U. Offers 8th Grade Scholarship

Are you on the pathway to a college education at Michigan State University? Did you attend an MSU pre-college program such as 4-H Exploration Days or 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp the summer prior to entering 8th grade? If so, please check out the MSU 8th Grade Pre-College Scholarship competitive opportunity at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/scholar.html> for complete details and an application.

This scholarship awards \$2,000 toward the student's first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student. Completed applications must be received at the county MSU Extension office by November 15. The county office will forward applications to Michigan State University by December 1, 2008.

4-H Teen Leadership Resource

Would you like to know what a 4-H teen leader is? What does a leader do? What are the objectives of 4-H teen leadership? What is a 4H teen leadership project? How can you get involved in teen leadership? Find the answer to these questions as well as 4-H Teen Leadership Resources and Training Opportunities at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/cis/teenlead-overview.html>.

Registration Reminder

The registration deadline for returning 4-H members who plan on showing projects at the 2009 Armada Fair is November 3, 2008. New members planning to show projects at the 2009 Armada Fair must be registered by April 1, 2009.

Anyone registering late must request and be granted permission from the Macomb County 4-H Council before showing projects at the 2009 Armada Fair.

4-H Youth Mentor Program December Life Skills Training- Celebrating Diversity

Please join us on Monday, December 22, 2008 as we celebrate the holiday season and diversity. We will be meeting at the 4-H/mentor office from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This LST focuses on cultural awareness and diversity issues.

We will supply the main dish, and we ask that all participants bring a dish to pass that represents their culture and/or family traditions. We will share our backgrounds and play games that incorporate tolerance and cultural education.

Please RSVP to Rachel by Friday, December 19th at 586.783.8163 or rcalca@macombcountymi.gov and specify what dish you will be bringing. If anyone is interested in giving a presentation on their cultural experiences, please let me know and we can schedule you into our agenda. See you there!

Club & Committee News

Macomb Horse Program Cleans Up

The end of August marked the time of the State 4-H Horse Show at the MSU Pavilion in E. Lansing. Macomb County had 27 youths who participated in the shows this year. It was a big year for Macomb with all youths who participated placing in the top 10 in their classes.

Light Weight Horses - Kaitlyn Bailokur, Zachary Becker, Mark Bodenbach, Jr., Elizabeth Brockert, Macrina Cipa, Shanna Drake, Sarah Dubay, Melanie Goetz, Jennifer Haneghan, Lauren Howe, Ania Kroll, Jamie Maurice, Kelsey Pylar, Rachel Rapp, Kayla Richardson, Katie Rinke, Rachel Wilbur, Randi Wojcik.

Placing either 1st or 2nd overall in their classes were Kaitlyn Bailokur, Macrina Cipa, Shanna Drake, Melanie Goetz, Lauren Howe, Ania Kroll and Jamie Maurice.

Mini Horses – Adrienne Brockert, Ashley Cerku, Daniel Cooper, Colleen Davis, Jeffrey Foehl, Kelly Goolsby, Trevor Goolsby, Rebecca Konopaski, Heather Verfaillie. All participants in the mini horse show placed in the top three in at least one of their classes, with the most placings being in 1st and 2nd.

A very big **CONGRATULATIONS** to all who took part in the state show this year!

Dorothy Murmyluk Award

At the Armada Fair dog show, Jessica Fowke of K-9 and Kompany was the second annual recipient of the Dorothy Murmyluk Versatility Award. This award is given to the dog project member who has the best overall performance in agility, obedience and showmanship. The recipient must use the same dog in all three areas in order to qualify. The award is named for Dorothy Murmyluk, who began the dog project in Macomb County over 20 years ago. She is still a resource person for Macomb 4-H.

2008 State Dog Show Results



Brittany Bergstrom and Teddy at the 2008 State 4-H Dog Show.

One hundred and seventy youth from twenty eight counties participated in the 2008 4-H State Dog Show on August 16th. Congratulations to the following Macomb County participants from K-9 and Kompany:

Agility: Brittany Bergstrom, 6th place, Beginner B, Ages 12-13
Lydia Allen, 4th place, Beginner B, Age 14
Jordan Wichman, 1st place, Advanced A
Carly Maas, 2nd place, Advanced A

Obedience: Brittany Bergstrom, 3rd place, Pre-Novice B, Age 12
Carly Mass, 1st place, Graduate Novice A
Brianna Wilkinson, 5th place, Graduate Novice A.

Article submitted by Ginny Bloxsom, photo by Julie Bergstrom

Canine Good Citizenship Evaluations Passed

On October 19, the Companion Animals Committee sponsored Canine Good Citizen evaluations at Camp Rotary. The following 4-H members passed the evaluation with their dogs: Jodi Pierce, Jon Mueller, Nathan Yurik, Brittany Bergstrom and Heather Kitchen. The certification means the dogs will be able to participate in nursing home visits with 4-H, as well as proving the dogs are courteous. Congratulations to all of them, and thanks to the Muellers, Pierces and Yuriks for their assistance in conducting the evaluations.

Submitted by Nancy Duemling

Pocket Pet Books Make Debut at Armada Fair

Because no changes could be made to the Fair Book, youth in the Pocket Pet Project petitioned the Companion Animals Program Committee to sponsor ribbons and premiums for Pocket Pet Book entries in the 2008 Armada Fair.

The results were as follows: Allisha Hummeny and Brianna Wilkinson received A Ribbons, Trevor Wilkinson received a B ribbon, and Jacob Bergstrom participated as a Cloversprout.

4-H will be requesting that the Pocket Bet Book be made part of the 2009 Fair Book. K-9 and Kompany's Ginny Bloxom is heading an active Pocket Pet/Pet Rabbit Project. Shared project members from other clubs are welcome.

Submitted by Ginny Bloxsom



2008 State Shoot

Four Macomb County youths participated in the State 4-H Shoot that was held at the St. Joseph County Conservation and Sportsman Club in Sturgis this year. The guys did very well in what proved to be pretty stiff competition from other counties.

Ben Wallace took third place overall in Jr. Skeet, Jimmy Maas – 5th overall in Jr. 3-D Target Archery; Dakota Roberts – 15th in Sr. 3-D Target Archery; CJ Van Camp – 6th in Sr. Trap. Congratulations to all who participated in the State 4-H Shoot!

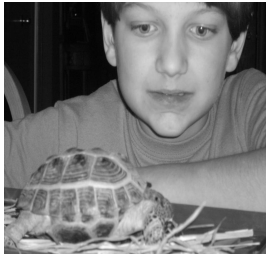
Upcoming Events

4-H Horse Leaders Workshop

The 4-H Horse Leaders Workshop will take place at Kettunen Center November 22-23, 2008. The workshop is for adult volunteers and teens ages 14 or older. Those attending will learn to present information and ideas for club meetings and activities, provide subject matter that will help 4-H teen horse leaders become more effective leaders. They will have the opportunity to exchange ideas on 4-H horse programs and events, and have an opportunity to meet 4-H members and leaders from other parts of the state.

The cost is \$40 per participant. Register with the MSU Extension 4-H office by November 7, 2008

Pocket Pet/Rabbit Meeting



Jacob and his pocket pet.

The next Pocket Pet/Rabbit meeting will be **M o n d a y**, November 24th at 7 p.m. at the Wilkinson's, 57785 Abraham, Washington, MI 48094. For more information contact Bri Bloxsom at 586-306-2336 or e-mail ginny@sisconet.com.

Submitted by Ginny Bloxsom

Vote November 4th

Exercise your right to vote November 4th! More information about ballot proposals are available online at <http://www.msue.msu.edu>.

"A Really Green Holiday"

Learn how to create an environmentally friendly, less stressful holiday. This one-hour program will be held at 2 p.m. on Nov. 9th at Romeo Library's Graubner branch. It will be repeated at 7 p.m. on November 18th at the VerKuijen Building.

Call Mary Gerstenberger at 586-469-6085 for more information or to R.S.V.P.

Season's Greetings from the MSU Extension 4-H Staff!

Kathy Jamieson
Jan Gwozdz
Tina Fleming
Rachel Calcaterra
Anne Crotser
Bee Brown
Karen Hakim
Dee Ewald
Roberta Busquaert
Marcia Bloomfield

Notes from the 4-H Office

4-H Newsletter and E-mail Announcement Deadlines

The next 4-H Family Notes Newsletter deadline is November 14, 2008. The issue will be mailed by late December.

Information for the next 4-H E-mail Announcements should be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 14th. The E-mail Announcements will be sent the following Monday.

Submit all articles, pictures and announcements to Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov, MSU Extension - Macomb County, Attn: 4-H, 21885 Dunham Road, Suite 12, Clinton Township, MI 48036

Subcommittee Seeks Focus Group Hosts

The Education and Outreach Subcommittee of the 4-H Council presented a proposal from Patti Steele, ISD Consultant Services, for a countywide youth "Needs Assessment" using focus groups. The Subcommittee would develop a questionnaire and train 4-H members on how to conduct simple focus groups. Ideally, 12-20 focus groups would be held. Focus group hosts would be asked to invite 12-16 individuals they know (in hopes that half would actually attend) to attend a focus group held at a time and location determined by the host (probably during March or April 2009). Dr. Judy Backes of the ISD has volunteered to analyze the resulting data and create a report that could be used by 4-H and other groups concerned with the needs of Macomb County youth, to develop or refine their programs.

Hosts would form their focus groups from their regular contacts. Some suggested groups might include teachers, home-schooling parents, veterans, book clubs, neighborhood group, employee group, church group, social service or mental health professionals, school athletics or arts booster groups, youth group leaders (4-H, YMCA, Scouts) etc.

If you would be willing to host a focus group, please contact Anne Crotser at the 4-H Office, 469-6431.

The MSU Extension Office will be closed:

November 4, 11, 27, 28
December 24, 25, 31
January 1

Beef Blast

The next Beef Blast, sponsored by the 4-H and FFA Thumb Jackpot Educational Program, is coming!

Who: 4-H and FFA members of the beef project from the Thumb area

What: Attend international heifer, steer, and club calf shows and sales

When: November 14 (after school) to November 16, 2008

Where: North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE) in Louisville, KY

Why: Experience national level junior shows

How: Sign up with Doug Meiburg, (810) 688-2222, prior to November 5, 2008

Cost: Approximately \$150/person, includes transportation, two nights of lodging (four per room), and admission to the Expo grounds; based on 50 people attending

Other: Additional tours in and around Louisville, KY will be planned

Contact Doug Meiburg
(810) 688-2222
for more information.

Notes from the 4-H Office (continued) —

4-H Council News



The 4-H Council has undergone some restructuring based on 4-H feedback from volunteers and members. The Council consists of adult and youth representatives from clubs, mentoring programs, in-school and out-of-school community based networks, and the community at large, each of whom serve simultaneously on one of the Council's four subcommittees: Fair, Finance, Recognition, and Education/Outreach. All subcommittees meet quarterly prior to the full Council meeting, with additional subcommittee meetings to be scheduled as needed. Each club could send two representatives per subcommittee for a maximum of eight individuals per club.

Each subcommittee has met twice so far and we can already see the accomplishments. The Fair Subcommittee has been busy reviewing the fair book, making recommendations and recruiting superintendents for next year. The Finance Subcommittee has already raised money for the Council through the Chili's fundraiser held in August. The Finance subcommittee is now sponsoring another fundraiser by selling 4-H pet treats. The recognition committee is busy planning the County Awards to be held on January 15, and the Education/Outreach Subcommittee is planning on conducting focus group assessments and sponsoring a Volunteer Service Fair. For a sign-up form and more information about the Council and subcommittees, see our website at <http://www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/Clubs.htm>. The next 4-H Council/Subcommittee meeting will be on Thursday, January 29 at 6 p.m. at the VerKuilen Building.

Support Your 4-H Council by Treating Your Pets



The 4-H Council Finance Subcommittee is raising money to pay for bus transportation to events and to provide scholarship support for adult 4-H volunteers who serve as chaperones. Treat your pets this Holiday Season by buying 4-H Pet Treats made in the USA with 100% human grade ingredients. For a nominal cost of \$4.00, you can choose a five-ounce bag of delicious treats that come in the following flavors: peanut butter-honey, pumpkin spice, and bacon-cheese for your dogs; tuna or seafood for your cats; and molasses-peppermint or molasses-apple for your horses. Order forms are available at the MSU office or online at <http://pettreats4youth.com/forms.htm>. All order forms and orders are due by Friday, November 21st. For more information, please contact Kathy at 586-469-6093 or jamies13@msu.edu.

Armada Fair Suggestions and Fair Book Changes



Please submit your concerns –solutions and fair book recommendations to the MSUE 4-H office in writing. All fair book change recommendations will need to be submitted in writing to the MSUE office no later than Dec 15 to be considered in next year's fair. The fair board has informed the MSUE office the next opportunity to make changes will not be until 2012 fair so it is important to make any necessary changes now. Check out the Armada Fair suggestion form on our website at http://www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/documents/Armada_Fair_2008_Suggestion_Form.pdf

All recommended changes will then be shared with the Fair Committee, 4-H Superintendents and Armada Fair Superintendents for review.

Armada Fair Superintendents Needed

If you're interested in serving as a 4-H superintendent, please call Tina Fleming at 586-469-6431. Some of the openings include Poultry, Exhibit Building, Creative Arts, and Education and Vet Science to name a few.

Macomb County 4-H Staff

Marilyn Rudzinski, County Extension Director
Kathy Jamieson, 4-H Youth Agent
Tina Fleming, 4-H Youth Educator
Anne Crotser, 4-H Youth Educator
Karen Hakim, 4-H Program Assistant
Roberta Busquaert, 4-H Secretary
Jan Gwozdz, 4-H Mentor Coordinator
Rachel Calcaterra, 4-H Youth Educator

Bee Brown, 4-H Program Assistant
Doreatha Ewald, Americorps Member Program Assistant
Marcia Bloomfield, 4-H Mentor Program Secretary

Address: 21885 Dunham, #12, Clinton Twp., MI 48036
Telephone: (586) 469-6431
Fax: (586) 469-6948
E-mail: Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov
Web: <http://macombcountymi.gov/msuextension>

MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.